

News briefs

A-10 accident

An Accident Investigation Board determined pilot error to be the cause of a 52nd Fighter Wing A-10 aircraft accident June 27 near Nancy, France.

The pilot of the aircraft, Capt. Robert I. Lopez, was fatally injured when his A-10 impacted the terrain in a rural area a half-mile southwest of the town of Domptail.

The AIB, led by Brig. Gen. John T. Brennan, 48th Fighter Wing commander, stated the primary cause was the pilot mis-prioritized his tasks and failed to properly execute his descent to 500 feet above ground level during training maneuvers. Late recognition of his 32 degrees nose low attitude resulted in an attempt to recover the aircraft that was too late to avoid controlled flight into the terrain. The mishap occurred during a training mission.

Community Bank hours

Both branches of Community Bank have shortened operating hours Oct. 22. The Bitburg Annex branch opens 10 a.m. to noon. The Spangdahlem Air Base branch opens 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For details, call 452-6879 or 452-9294.

New service dress nametag

The Air Force just approved a new nametag to be worn on the service dress coat. The new service dress nametag has a brushed satin finish and blue letters. It is slightly larger and heavier than the blue plastic nametag worn on the blue shirt. Due to the specifications for the new nametag, the AAFES nametape plant is currently not equipped to manufacture the tags.

AAFES is working as quickly as possible to seek alternative sources and start production of the new nametags; however, they do not anticipate taking customer orders for the new nametag until the first of the year.

For more information and to view the new nametag, visit <http://www.af.mil/news/Oct2002/100102458.shtml>, or call the Spangdahlem Air Base Military Clothing Sales Store at 452-6972.

GSA training conference

General Services Administration holds its Outreach Europe 2002 training conference and trade exposition at Heidelberg's Patrick Henry Village Pavilion, Oct. 28-31.

More than 200 displays will demonstrate products for security and force protection, dormitory, quarters and office furniture, fitness equipment and information technology. Training courses include ordering from GSA, purchase card training and security issues.

For more information or to register contact Thomas Meiron at DSN 330-6085/7985 or visit www.fss.gsa.gov/oe2002.

Registration is free for military and U.S. federal civilians.

FAST training

The 52nd Comptroller Squadron offers monthly FAST

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Eifel Times

Vol. 36, Issue 37

Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany

Oct. 11, 2002

Senior Airman Patrick Scott Simmons, 52nd Operations Support Squadron air traffic controller, was selected as the U.S. Air Force representative at the United Service Organization Europe Service Salute Saturday at Wiesbaden, Germany. More than 500 senior American and German military officials, diplomatic, political and industrial leaders came together to honor 10 of the best junior enlisted service members for their outstanding military and community achievements.

Staff Sgt. Timothy Cook

Wing air traffic controller represents USAF at USO Europe Service Salute

By Staff Sgt. Jennifer Lindsey
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

The United Service Organization Europe honors members from each branch of the U.S. and German forces annually. This year, Senior Airman Patrick Scott Simmons, 52nd Operations Support Squadron air traffic controller, landed the honor of representing the U.S. Air Force at the ceremony.

At the USO Europe Service Salute in Wiesbaden, Germany, more than 500 senior American and German military officials, diplomatic, political and industrial leaders came together to honor 10 of the best junior enlisted service members for their outstanding military and community achievements.

The event, held Saturday, also provided the opportunity to celebrate the partnership that exists between the U.S. armed

forces and the host nation, according to Carly Harris, USO Europe headquarters representative.

The squadron commander, flight commander, chief controller, his supervisor and first sergeant accompanied Simmons to the event.

"I was excited and looked forward to the opportunity to meet and spend time with the members of the different branches of the military and our German counterparts," said Simmons. "The most impressive part of the event was the opportunity to meet and speak with the senior enlisted advisers, and commanders and generals of Europe in each branch of the service."

See USO, Page 2

Spangdahlem Air Base family advocacy offers advice for couples, parents

By Lynn Jackson
Family advocacy outreach manager

When was the last time you and your spouse were on a date -- alone together?

Often this is the first question asked by a counselor when a couple seeks help for relationship problems. The most frequent response to this question is usually a blank look and the couple will begin counting back the weeks, months, or even years.

When people marry, two "individuals" come together to form a "couple." Each person has individual hobbies, likes, dislikes, etc. During the course of a marriage, many of those things that were important to each person as an individual are given up.

The next step for some is becoming "parents"

and in this process, many find that the "couple" disappears amidst the diapers, toys and everyday needs of children. Often, couples having children never really experience life as a married couple and they long for the romance of the dating period.

Many couples report they have "lost that friendship feeling" and now they are "just married." Couples in this situation should think for a moment about the things they discuss with friends. Perhaps dreams about the future, sports, politics, points of view and interests? They should then think about how often they discuss these things with their partner. Do discussions between couples only pertain to kids, money, car repairs, in-laws and neighbor problems? If couples aren't careful, most of their talks end up being about problems and concerns -- not points

of view or interests.

It's important for couples to make the time to protect their relationship and friendship. They should go out on dates on a regular basis. The time alone together doesn't have to be expensive or consume a large amount of time.

A walk in the evening, or a drive to watch the sunset together is as beneficial as an expensive night on the town. If childcare is a problem, what about a romantic dinner at home after the children are in bed?

Many parents will feel guilty if they already don't have sufficient time to spend with their children. Despite the pressures, couples need to realize they'll be better parents and do better at work if their marriage is doing better. This means putting a priority on the relationship and making

some changes.

The family advocacy staff would like to remind the Spangdahlem Air Base community that October is "Domestic Violence Prevention Month."

The staff would like everyone to work together to keep the Eifel community violence free by keeping relationships healthy.

All couples experience difficulties during a marriage. The key is to seek help before problems get out of control. Counseling and classes are available through family advocacy, the chapel and family support center.

The Art of Relationship class is now forming in family advocacy. Call 452-3130 or 452-8279 for information on this class or other services offered to strengthen the marriage.

Accidents

By John W. Keeler
52nd Security Forces Squadron
Reports and Analysis

Twenty-six Team Eifel members experienced vehicle accidents in the past week, six of which were major.

■The first major accident was on L-39 between Roehl and Scharfbilling. An airman, who was attempting to make a right turn, lost control of his vehicle and went down a steep embankment.

No one was injured. The airman's vehicle, which received damage to the entire passenger side, and front and rear bumpers, was towed from the scene.

■The second was on B-51 in the direction of Trier. An airman encountered a vehicle in his lane that was trying to pass another. The airman applied his brakes, lost control of the vehicle, overturned and landed in a ditch. There were no injuries, but the vehicle was towed from the scene.

■The third was on L-43 between Schleidweiler and Zemmer. An airman reported he lost control while going around a curve and hit a tree. Security forces investigation found the airman was traveling too fast for conditions. He suffered concussion-like symptoms and went to the Bitburg Annex Emergency Room for an evaluation. The vehicle was towed from the scene with damage to its front end and a bent axle.

■The fourth was on A-1 in the direction of Munich. An airman reported his front tire blew as he rounded a corner. He lost control and slid into a ditch. No one was injured. The vehicle, which sustained damage to the front and rear axles, major body damage and two blown tires, was towed from the scene.

■The fifth was on B-40 near Sembach. Polizei reported that a civilian assigned to Spangdahlem Air Base was involved in a three-vehicle accident. No injuries were reported. The circum-

stances of the accident are still pending investigation.

■The sixth was on L-34 between Himmerod and Schwarzenborn. An airman was going around a bend in the road, lost control of his vehicle, slid into a ditch, flipped and landed the car on its roof.

No one was injured. The vehicle, which received dents and scratches to the roof, doors and windows, was towed from the scene.

The 20 minor accidents involved:

■12 from inattentive driving.

■Five accidents while backing.

■Two fleeing the scene of accidents.

In addition, 17 citations were issued.

Road conditions

The 52nd Security Forces Squadron reminds Team Eifel drivers about driving hazards during the winter months. Operators need to follow road conditions in accordance with Spangdahlem AB Instruction 31-204.

Road conditions will be broadcast through Giant Voice, radio and television. All U.S. Army Europe-plated and government vehicles must adhere to the following road conditions:

■Green: Normal operation for all vehicles.

■Amber: Road conditions are hazardous. Exercise caution due to slush, snow, ice patches or decreased visibility.

■Red: Road conditions are extremely hazardous. Drive only if absolutely necessary and exercise extreme caution. GOVs should not be operated unless an actual emergency or mission requirement exists.

■Black: Driving cannot be conducted safely. Vehicles should only be operated in extreme, life threatening emergencies only.

USO

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According to Simmons' supervisor, Tech. Sgt. Ricardo Young, the honor was well deserved.

"He's a true mentor for more junior airmen," he said. "He's highly involved in all levels throughout the unit and the base."

For his professionalism and achievements throughout 2001, Simmons was voted 52nd Fighter Wing Airman of the Year, 52nd OSS Ground Controlled Approach Controller of the Year and airfield operations flight trainer of the second quarter.

Throughout the past year, in addition to assisting the flight to support 20 aircraft deployments, the controller handled 23 in-flight emergencies and five weather recalls, which minimized costly delays and diverts,

according to Master Sgt. Clint Bateman, 52nd OSS airfield operations flight ground controlled approach chief.

"Cool under pressure, Simmons is our 'go-to' controller when decisive, skillful controlling is required," he said.

Simmons was also selected for his training skills, which enabled nine trainees to quickly adapt to live traffic situations, and lead to 22 position certifications and five facility ratings, according to Young.

Off duty, the senior airman takes courses in pursuit of a Community College of the Air Force degree in airway science, in addition to maintaining a 95 percent average on monthly ground control proficiency tests. Simmons is also an active member of the Air Force Sergeant's Association and has volunteered

for Operation Pick an Angel, Airmen Against Drunk Driving, flight fund-raisers and the wing Patriot's Day ceremony.

Simmons' achievements mirror his work and community service philosophy, explaining how the senior airman achieved so much in only a couple of years.

"At work, I go everyday trying to give my best," said Simmons. "In air traffic control, there's so much to learn and everyday I learn something new. For community service, whenever there's something coming up that I enjoy doing, I volunteer."

The ceremony provided a big send off for Simmons as he prepares to move to Florida within the month. There he'll work as an air traffic controller in the radar approach control center at Tyndall Air Force Base.

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training for funds verifiers, approving officials and organizational FAST administrators. In addition, training for new users takes place twice a month.

The funds verifier and approving official classes take place Tuesday and Nov. 12. The organizational FAST administrators classes take place Oct. 29 and Nov. 26. Oct. 22, and Nov. 5 and 19. The classes take place from 8 a.m. to noon at the 52nd CPTS conference room in building 23.

Part of the OFA training, which all OFAs are encouraged to attend regardless of prior training, will include lessons learned, time saving procedures and FAST issues.

New user training takes place Oct. 22 and Nov. 5 and 19 from 8-11 a.m. in the education center computer lab in building 192. The new user training is to help people put personal travel authorizations and

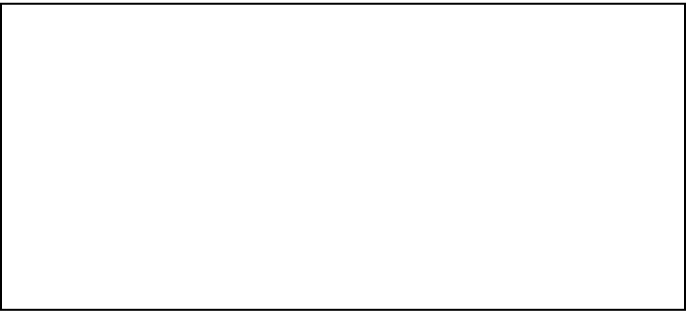
vouchers into the system. Those attending should bring all travel documents. People are welcome to attend as many times as necessary. To sign-up or for details, call 452-5980 or 452-6763.

Weapons load crew competition

The 52nd Fighter Wing Weapons Load Crew of the Quarter competition take place Oct. 17 in Hangar 1. The competition begins at 7 a.m. with toolbox and equipment inspections, an academic test and a dress and appearance inspection. Weapons loading begins at 9 a.m.

The wing jammer driver of the quarter competition also takes place Oct. 17 at 7 a.m., with a dress and appearance inspection followed by the driving portion of the competition starting at 10 a.m.

The awards ceremony for both competitions takes place the same day in Hangar 1 at 4 p.m.



USAFE gains two units under realignment

Unified command restructure impacts Azores, Iceland bases

By Capt. Dani Johnson
U.S. Air Forces in Europe News Service

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany -- U.S. Air Forces in Europe gained two new units with the implementation of the Unified Command Plan Oct. 1.

Lajes Air Base, Azores, and the 85th Group at Naval Air Station Keflavik, Iceland, will transition from Air Combat Command to USAFE as part of the Department of Defense realignment of unified command responsibilities.

The U.S. European Command, of which USAFE is the air component, is the most heavily impacted command under the revised plan. USAFE will gain responsibility for Iceland, Greenland, the Azores, more than half of the Atlantic Ocean from the U.S. Joint Forces Command, and the previously unassigned areas of the Russia Federation and the Caspian Sea.

“This will be the first time a United States unified war fighting command has ever included Russia in its AOR (area of responsibility),” said Gen. Joseph W. Ralston, commander in chief of USEUCOM and Supreme Allied Commander, Europe. “This new plan is a natural outgrowth from post cold war relationships and fosters enhanced relationships with former adversaries that are now among our strongest partners. This is strong testament to the encouraging evolution of the relationships we've developed over the years with Russia.”

USEUCOM previously had 91 countries in its AOR, ranging from the tip of Norway to the southern tip of South Africa. Now with the new UCP, USEUCOM will have responsibility

for 93 countries; Azores is considered part of Portugal and Greenland is a protectorate under Denmark.

According to Lt. Col. Colleen Ryan, bases branch chief at the headquarters USAFE Directorate of Plans, the UCP changes will not necessarily change how we engage, but will expand our current cooperation initiatives.

“The change will increase our military-to-military relations with Russia and the scope of our cooperation,” she said. “In preparation for Oct. 1, we (USEUCOM and USAFE) have been working with national agencies and the U.S. Ambassador to Russia to coordinate implementation of the UCP. One event we are particularly looking forward to participating in for the first time is the Moscow Air Show, August 2003.”

This is an awesome opportunity for USAFE, she said. “To think of Russia and all that goes on there and the new things this enables USAFE to do, especially concerning our role in cooperation.”

And much remains to be accomplished after the transition, especially with bringing two additional Air Force units into USAFE.

“There are still things that will have to be worked out after the transition,” said Ryan.

“We hope the changes are transparent, but naturally there will be some changes as far as how they operate,” she said. “So we sent project task forces to both locations ... to ensure the transition is smooth for all concerned. We just can't say,

okay, we're done and you guys are USAFE.”

The new UCP will increase USAFE's areas of interest, duties, responsibilities and support, said Lt. Col. Bill Mosley, headquarters USAFE Directorate of Plans chief of doctrine and strategy.

Both units, the 65th Air Base Wing at Lajes and Keflavik's 85th Group, will fall under 3rd Air Force, which is headquartered at Royal Air Force Mildenhall, England.

But the units will continue doing their mission in place as they currently do, Mosley added.

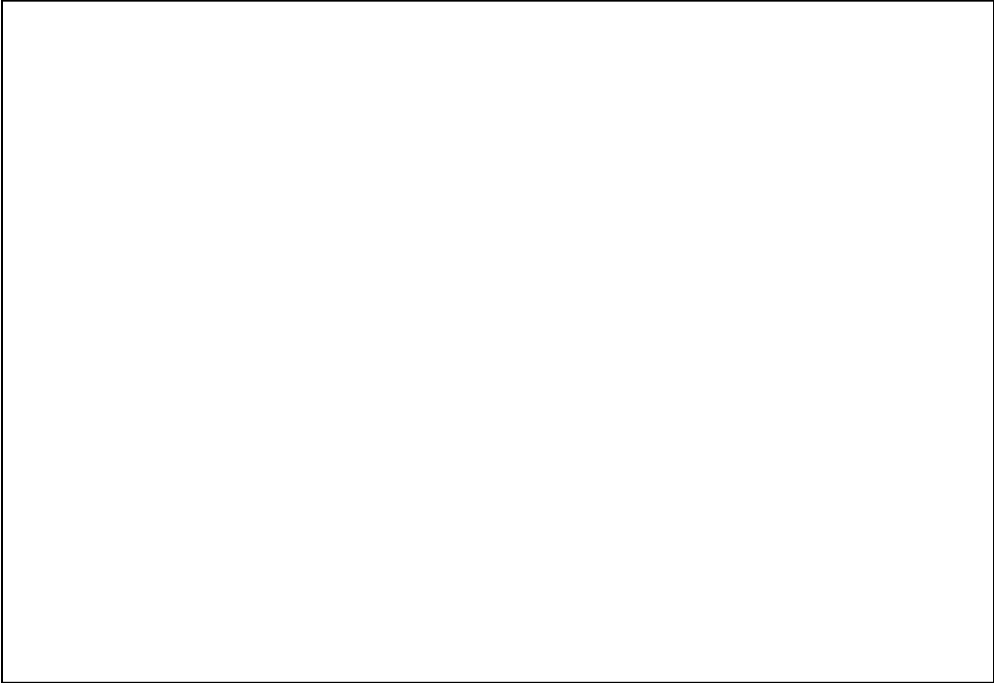
The command and the units have until Feb. 1, 2003, to finish the administrative details, said Mosley.

“This gives folks time to work out the various agreements, MOUs (memoranda of understanding), and other change-overs as needed.”

Mosley said the missions at Lajes and Keflavik will remain the same - to provide support to inter-theater and transient aircraft and to support the air defense and air rescue missions, respectively.

“We encourage the airmen at Keflavik and Lajes, to look at the USAFE Web site (visit www.usafe.af.mil from a .mil or .gov computer) to see what makes USAFE unique,” said Ryan. “We aren't ACC -- we are different. Go to the Web site and take a look at us and see the big things we are doing and how you are going to fit into the big picture.” (Information courtesy U.S. European Command Public Affairs)

Eifel Elite



Staff Sgt. Timothy Cook

The members of the 52nd Operations Support Squadron airfield management operations flight make up this week's Top Saber Team.

Top Saber Team

Unit name: 52nd Operations Support Squadron airfield management operations flight
Unit responsibilities: The airfield management operations flight is charged with providing a safe, efficient and effective airfield environment for all aircraft operations.
Number of members: Eight enlisted and two civilian members.
How does the team fit into the 52nd Fighter Wing's mission? The AM ops team ensures the wing has the safest airfield environment for flying operations by identification, control and elimination of hazards on the airfield. They initiate response to aircraft emergencies, execute the wing's bird aircraft strike hazard program, manage the wing's flightline driver familiarization program and provide oversight of airfield construction projects. They also provide transient aircrew and aircraft support, aircrew flight planning assistance, dissemination of critical flight safety data and are the command and control center for daily airfield operations. They've also identified all requirements to allow the wing to conduct flying operations off the North Atlantic Treaty Organization parallel taxiway while the main runway is closed for repairs from March through September 2003. Working with the 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron, wing safety and other base organizations, the AM ops team improved airfield infrastructure, eliminated obstructions and decreased operational impacts to the mission during airfield improvement projects.



Staff Sgt. Timothy Cook

Airman 1st Class Joseph Sollers, 52nd Operations Support Squadron air traffic control journeyman, is this week's Top Saber Performer.

Top Saber Performer

Name: Airman 1st Class Joseph Sollers
Unit/duty title: 52nd Operations Support Squadron air traffic control journeyman
Hometown: Tucson, Ariz.
Time in service: One year, 10 months
Contributions to the 52nd Fighter Wing's mission success: “Airman 1st Class Sollers is truly a fantastic airman. He is very calm under pressure. Earlier this year, he controlled two emergencies at once. He focused on the task at hand and adjusted his traffic pattern, giving priority to the emergencies. He provided them with all the necessary airport information and calmly vectored them safely back to base. Additionally, his professional, yet friendly demeanor makes him an ideal co-worker,” said Master Sgt. Clint Bateman, 52nd OSS.
Off duty volunteerism and professional development pursuits: Vice president for the Griffin Booster Club.
What do you do for fun? Or, what's a fun thing you've done lately? Attending local festivals and special events, as well as traveling and visiting other countries.
What do you like most about being stationed here? The environment. The people are tighter-knit. The country is lush and beautiful with a staggering amount of opportunities for travel and exploration.
What's one thing you'd like to see changed or improved at Spangdahlem Air Base: A Taco Bell open all night on weekends would be outstanding.

Local history club honors military spouse's contributions

Air Force OSI wife reflects on 57 years of dedication

By Staff Sgt. Jennifer Lindsey
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

Members of the local club, World War II Society Europe, honor those who fought for freedom by preserving stories of dedication and sacrifice. Society members recently honored the dedication and sacrifice of an American who never set foot on a battlefield, but supported the fight for freedom from her home for 57 years.

The society honored Louise Reysenn, wife of the late Pierre Reysenn, by presenting her with her husband's encased burial flag and a certificate, signed by the Secretary of the Air Force, recognizing Pierre's 50 years of U.S. military service. Pierre died on Memorial Day, 2002. The Air Force Office of Special Investigations agent retired from service in 1961, but continued serving in the military as a government-service employee until 1991, when he had to retire for health reasons.

"Today, we honor a very special lady, because her support has made a significant difference in her husband's accomplishments and successes," said Ed Lapotsky, World War II Society Europe president, at a ceremony held Sept. 27 in the base community center.

Louise's life in the military began in 1940, when she met Pierre who, at the time, was a member of the Belgian guard and was staying at a mutual friend's house in the United States. Shortly after they met, Pierre received word of his country's fall. After several attempts, Pierre joined the Army as a Morse code interpreter, still unable to speak English, but with exceptionally high test scores.

Louise and Pierre became engaged in October 1941, shortly before her fiancé departed for service in the Pacific. The two vowed to marry, when, and if, Pierre returned.



Louise Reysenn, wife of the late Pierre Reysenn, reflects on her husband's military service at a ceremony honoring Pierre's 57 years of government service.

That happened three and one-half years later, after Louise endured separation from her fiancé as he served at Pearl Harbor during the Japanese attack and island hopped throughout the Pacific theater until 1945.

The two married upon Pierre's short return. Soon after, her husband was reassigned to the Army's Criminal Investigations Department and post-war France.

Louise joined Pierre a year later by traveling, along with many other military wives, by hospital ship to Europe. However, it wasn't long before Pierre was reassigned to Wiesbaden, Germany.

"Back then the husband had to travel ahead

to find quarters and, of course, things were very bad in Germany at that time," said Louise Reysenn.

In 1948, Pierre was reassigned to the Army Air Corps Office of Special Investigations. The assignment would take the couple back to the United States and then to Bitburg, Germany, which the couple would eventually call "home."

"It wasn't easy, but when you're young, you can take it," said Louise. "Some things were really hard, but when I hear people complaining today I don't understand. We had to go through a lot then. We didn't have commissaries. When we were living in France, once

weekly they'd take the wives into Paris, which was dark and dreary back then, not at all like the Paris of today. We'd buy canned goods and what was available. We managed. You had to manage because there was nothing you could do about it."

Making meals wasn't any simpler because Louise had never cooked on a coal stove before.

Because of her husband's occupation, Louise also had to overcome unique challenges as a young military spouse. Pierre was often called away on assignment to undisclosed locations for days or weeks. Upon his return, the couples' conversations were limited to "small talk" unrelated to Pierre's work.

"Louise has been, and still is, an example for many young OSI wives to follow," said Pierre in 1985 at an interview. "She has never questioned my faithfulness as a husband, although my assignments have more than once kept me away from home and regardless of the length of our inevitable separations, she always, to this day, welcomes me home with a smile and a word of encouragement ..."

Members of the World War II Society Europe chose to celebrate the Reysenn's life together as testimony of how military couples can endure the hardships, which can tear at the fibers of a healthy marriage.

"Speaking as a husband, this relationship is an example of how we, in service to our country, should look at our spouses," said Lapotsky. "Our spouses should also look at this fine example and consider their service to our country."

"Pierre had a good saying when people complained about pay or work hours, he'd say, 'We always talk about our rights, but we often fail to mention our obligations.'"

WWII historical club invites new members

By Ed Lapotsky
World War II Society Europe

Keeping history alive is a goal of the World War II Society Europe, which encourages people interested in World War II history to join its ranks.

The society's primary purpose is to support the preservations of World War II history and events through active member participation. This will help ensure that future generations of Americans don't forget the hardships and sacrifices so many Americans made to help win the war and bring peace and freedom to today's generation.

Society members are involved in a number of European events. For example, members have participated in and helped organize two annual marches in the Belgian Ardennes - the 82nd Airborne Footsteps March in February and the Bastogne Perimeter March in December.

Additionally, the society offers members the opportunity to meet veterans and book authors, and make new friends with common interests. The club often takes trips and terrain walks in World War II battlefields of Belgium, France, Holland and Germany. The society also sponsors seminars and special projects by and for its members in support of the group's purpose.

Informal meetings take place each Friday at 11 a.m. in the Spangdahlem Air Base Community Activities Center. At the meetings, members discuss upcoming events and historical information. Events scheduled to take place in October and November include the Battle of the Bulge march in the Northern Ardennes, Belgium, Oct. 19; "A Bridge Too Far" tour in Arnhem, Germany, Oct. 26; Luxembourg World War II battlefield and memorial tour, Nov. 9; and the Huertgen forest, Germany, Nov. 23.

Membership meetings take place the last Friday of each month. The annual membership donation is \$30 per family and \$20 per person. Members receive the society newsletter, "World War II Rendezvous." People interested in joining the World War II Society Europe can do so at the membership meeting or by e-mailing ed.germany@t-online.de.



Top photo: People from Spangdahlem Air Base can take part in the Battle of the Bulge Memorial March in November. Bottom photo: After the march, participants take part in the Memorial Ceremony for those killed in the Battle of the Bulge.

Community Mailbox

Chapel contingency weekend

Annual contingency weekend at the base and annex chapels takes place Saturday and Sunday. Lay people will conduct worship services in the chaplains' absence. Call Chaplain (Maj.) Cassandra Thomas or Chaplain (Maj.) John Kinney by 4:30 p.m. today at 452-6711 for details.

Support groups

Helping Hands, a support group for parents of children with special needs such as autistic spectrum disorders, pervasive developmental disorders and Down's syndrome, meets Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in Spangdahlem Air Base building 427.

Free dinner and childcare will be provided. For more information, call Capt. Michelle Ambrose at 452-8238 or 06565-958238.

La Leche League

A meeting for breastfeeding mothers takes place Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in the Bitburg Annex conference room. Nurslings and children are welcome to attend. Call Margaret Loffelman at 06565-7555 or Alice DaFoe at 06561-683893 for details.

Family support

The following workshops take place in Spangdahlem Air Base building 307. Call 452-9491 to register.

■Home buying, Monday from 6-8 p.m.

■Predeployment briefing for active-duty and family members, Tuesday and Oct. 22 from 8-9 a.m.

■German bills made easy, Thursday from 8-9:30 a.m.

■Sponsor training, Thursday from 3-4:30 p.m.

■Travel to Trier by train, Oct. 18. Meet at the Spangdahlem Air Base commissary parking lot at 7:45 a.m. Open to all military ID card holders.

■Preseparation consultation, Oct. 21 from 9-10:30 a.m.

■Resume writing, Oct. 24 from 10 a.m. to noon

The following workshops take place in Bitburg Annex building 2001.

■Transition Assistance Program, Tuesday-Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

■Cooking Club featuring Asian recipes, Wednesday from 6-8 p.m.

■Predeployment briefing for active-duty and family members, Wednesday and Oct. 23 from 8-9 a.m.

■Basic investing, Thursday from 6-8 p.m.

■Creative critters, Oct. 21 from 10-11 a.m.

■Mutual Funds basics, Oct. 24 from 6-8 p.m.

Babysitter's training

A babysitter's training class takes place Oct. 19 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Bitburg Annex building 2001. Registration deadline is Monday. Cost is \$25. Call 452-9440 for details.

Pet care news

The Pet Spa is located in Oberweiss building 1044. Call 452-9362 for more information or to register.

■Puppy kindergarten starts Tuesday and runs through Nov. 19, each Tuesday, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. For puppies 12-18 months old. Cost is \$49.50.

■PCSing pets must have a health certificate signed by a veterinarian and dated no more than 10 days before travel. Also, all shots must be current.

■Transportation to the Pet Spa kennels takes place each Wednesday. Registration deadline is (close of business) Tuesday. The bus departs Spangdahlem Air Base lodging at 5:15 p.m. and Bitburg Annex lodging at 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$10 per family.

Community activities center

The following events take place in the Spangdahlem Air Base Community Activities Center in building 124. Call 452-7381 for more information.

■Hispanic Late Nighter dance begins at 9 p.m. Sunday. The event features free salsa and merengue lessons, and Hispanic food.

■ACT-Eifel presents "Dead Man's Hand" Oct. 18-20 and 25-26. A special wine and cheese tasting show takes place Oct. 20 at 6 p.m. Cost is \$10 adults, \$4 children 12 and younger. All other shows cost \$8 adults, \$4 children.

■"Rocky Horror Picture Show," Oct. 31 from 7-11 p.m. Event features movie, dancing and door prizes. Movie is rated R, adults must accompany youth younger than 17. Cost is \$2 or free for customers dressed as movie characters.

SES PTSA event

The Spangdahlem Elementary School

Parent, Teacher and Student Association International Nibble Fest takes place Oct. 24 at 6 p.m. Event organizers seek volunteers to sponsor a country, which includes preparing food, setting up an information booth and showcasing that country's customs and traditions. Call Kathy Adams at 06563-960185 to volunteer for this school fundraising event.

Craft classes

■Beginner scrapbooking, Oct. 21 and 28 from 9:30 a.m. to noon in Spangdahlem Air Base building 189. Cost is \$20, plus supplies.

■Tole painting, Oct. 29 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in Bitburg Annex building 2001. Cost is \$20, plus the cost of wood.

Call the Craft Corner at 452-4141 or visit the shop, located next to the commissary, to register.

LOR card game

The Eifel Coffee Mill's first "Lord of the Rings" card tournament takes place Oct. 26 at 2 p.m. in Spangdahlem Air Base building 139. The tourney lasts four rounds and takes about four hours to complete. Players must bring their own cards to compete. Call Larry Hutson at 06553-900331 for details.

Holiday bazaar news

Eifel Holiday Bazaar 2002 takes place Nov. 15 from noon to 8 p.m., Nov. 16 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Nov. 17 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Hangars 1 and 2. The event, sponsored by the Officer's and Civilian's Spouses Club, features more than 130 vendors from all over Europe. Proceeds benefit the Eifel military community. No strollers allowed.

Event organizers seek volunteers to help in various capacities. For more information, or to volunteer, call Kelli Owens at 06571-147977.

Library news

■Children's storytime, each Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. in the Bitburg Annex Library. Call 452-9056 for details.

■Youth ghost story contest, submissions accepted through Oct. 31 at both libraries. Stories will be judged in age categories. Call 452-6203 or 452-6970 for details.

■Reading group, Oct. 29 at 7 p.m. at the Bitburg Annex Library. Meet with others the last Tuesday of each month who are reading featured books. October's book is "Nothing is Impossible: Reflections on a New Life," by Christopher Reeve. Call 452-9056 for details.

Spain trip

The Evangel Temple Fellowship Church

sponsors a seven-day trip to Spain Nov. 10-16. The cost for the trip, which visits Barcelona, Madrid, Bordeaux and more, is 400 euro per person. For more information or to sign up, call Staff Sgt. Eunice Porter at 06565-942156 or Staff Sgt. Latitia Austin at 06580-917809.

Boost Up program

Military members can take advantage of a new program to "boost up" Military GI Bill benefits by up to \$5,400 by contributing up to \$600. This program is only open to active-duty members who first entered active-duty on or after July 1, 1985. Eligible participants may take advantage of this program at any time while on active duty. The benefit is not open to Vietnam-era "rollover" personnel or VEAP converttees. For more information, call the education center at 452-6063.

Developmental screening

Infant and toddler developmental screenings take place each first, third and fifth Monday monthly from 9-11 a.m. in the Educational and Developmental Intervention Services clinic. The clinic is in Spangdahlem Air Base building 161. EDIS also offers screenings each second and fourth Monday in the Bitburg Annex Chapel. Call 452-8238 for more information.

Girl Scouts

Girls Scouts offer girls in kindergarten through grade 12 the opportunity to learn various skills and do activities with youth in their same age group. Call Kannetha Clem at 06575-903627 for details. Local groups also seek volunteers. Call Karen Topolsky at 06561-947769 for more information.

Travel information

The "Panther Paws 2001-2002" travel guide is available at the Spangdahlem Air Base BXtra, the Bitburg Annex exchange and at Heidelberg BookMarks for \$10. The guide provides restaurant, hotel and activity information by 81st Fighter Squadron spouses.

Spangdahlem Air Base lodging

■Lodging now offers airport shuttle service. Cost is per person. To Frankfurt or Rhein Main, \$75; Hahn, \$55; Ramstein, \$45; Luxembourg, \$35; pets, \$15 each.

■Reserve a van and driver through lodging's daily rentals. Trips and tours are available within a three-hour radius of the Bitburg/Spangdahlem region.

Call 452-0520 for details on either service.

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Col. Stephen Mueller

Accessing Direct Line

The Direct Line program is a
way to get answers to questions
you still have after using your
chain of command.

Direct Lines of general
interest will be published in the
Eifel Times and may be edited or
paraphrased for brevity or clarity.
Submit your Direct Line via:

■DirectLine@spangdahlem.a
f.mil

■Mailed to 52nd FW/PA,
Unit 3680 Box 220, APO AE
09126

■To PA in building 23.

■Concerns may also be sent
via fax to 452-5254.

Anonymous inputs are
accepted. To receive a personal
response you must include your
name and phone number. Call the
Eifel Times at 452-5244 for more
information.

Number of days
since last DUI:

13

You have a choice.
Call Airmen Against
Drunk Driving
at 452-2233.

As of Thursday

Viewpoint

Oct. 11, 2002

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From the top

USAFE team just gets bigger, better

By Gen. Gregory S. Martin
U.S. Air Forces in Europe commander

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany -- On Oct. 1, U.S. Air Forces in Europe welcomed two new members to our team: the 65th Air Base Wing at Lajes Field, Azores, and the 85th Group at Keflavik Naval Air Station, Iceland.

This comes as part of the Unified Command Plan 2002, in which the President and Secretary of Defense expanded the U.S. European Command's area of responsibility to include Iceland, Greenland, the Azores and Russia. This is a big step for USAFE, as we take responsibility for all the U.S. Air Force assets and basing in this theater and continue to advance our efforts to promote

security cooperation throughout the area of responsibility.

Keflavik and Lajes have played critical roles in enabling power projection and global air and space operations. The men and women who have served and are serving now have provided more than 50 years of dedicated support to combat, humanitarian and training operations from these strategic operating locations. Aircraft like the B-17, C-47, and P-51 represent the rich history these two units bring to our command.

Keflavik today continues to serve as "Guardians of the North," through world-class surveillance, combat search and rescue capabilities, and support for AEF rotations. Over the

years, forces assigned to Keflavik have successfully protected Iceland's airspace and deterred aggression in the North Atlantic region.

The U.S. and British military first used Lajes for submarine-hunting missions during World War II before the U.S. later recognized the value of its strategic location. Now known as the "Crossroads of the Atlantic," Lajes provides base and en-route support for US, allied and other aircraft transiting the region.

With long-established NATO and European ties, it is fitting that on Oct. 1, the 65th ABW and 85th Group transitioned from Air Combat Command to join the USAFE. Welcome to the team!

The new war

Computers play as battlefield in cyber war

Senior Airman Paul McCullough
52nd Fighter Wing information awareness manager

The time is now, and it's being called "Cyber Wars." In this war the battlefield is the computer and we are all on the frontline.

The 52nd Communications Squadron has taken every measure to ensure that an adversary is unable to access the Spangdahlem Air Base network. However, without the help of every network user, we can't accomplish this goal.

The fact is, every time a military member accesses their e-mail or the Internet, the opportunity exists for an adversary to launch an attack. That's why it's everyone's responsibility to be educated on how to defend the network ensuring information superiority throughout the 52nd Fighter Wing.

The wing has been fortunate so far. However, the technology exists for a crippling assault, but the intent has been weak. Programmers have developed disastrous malicious codes in the past, but actually disabled the most damaging portions of the code.

People should understand, though, the future threat of a true adversary will not be so kind. The first wave of any attack could likely come in the form of a virus. Terrorists try to cause widespread panic, creating a feeling of instability. A successful virus attack would do just that.

A virus could shut down most communications, bring financial institutions to a halt and even affect such things as power and water supplies. An attack like that could easily pave the way for a physical attack. The worst part is the attacker would need nothing more than a telephone line and a computer to launch this assault from anywhere in the world.

Just as the terrorists planned for the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, we need plan for and recognize the fact that adversaries are just as patiently planning a cyber attack. The question is — are we prepared?

Our key to defense is knowledge. Know what a virus is and the different variations, how they affect your computer and the critical information in it, proper reporting procedures once you find them, and most important, how to

prevent them. Be vigilant when it comes to computer security. The threat is real. Expect the unexpected. Don't be the "weak link." There is an incredible amount of information available to you.

Here are a few quick tips to keep in mind:

- Use caution when opening email and downloading files of any type.
- Limit personal morale use of network resources as much as possible.
- Don't use military e-mail address for any non-official purposes on the Internet.
- Stay away from mailing lists and Web page accounts.
- Never open an email from someone you don't know.
- Never download anything from a non-government website.
- Only access trusted web sites.
- Verify that current anti-virus software is loaded.
- Verify that current anti-virus signature is installed.
- Question e-mail from people you do know.
- Viruses can infect a friend's computer and send itself out to e-mail distribution lists without them being aware.
- Be careful of ploys to get you to open e-mails.
- Be wary of credit help offers, order or winning confirmation, pictures, e-mails to look like a reply
- Know and follow the wing e-mail and Network Abuse Policy Letter.

There's a link to the information assurance web page, as well as a link to the new virus brochure, from the Intranet home page. If you can't find what you're looking for in these locations there is also a list of links to other sites and regulations, which have a lot of information.

Your unit COMPUSEC manager and unit workgroup manager should also be available for any questions or you can call the wing COMPUSEC office at 452-5375.

Dress and appearance tips

■Black watchcap -- may be worn from October to April in conjunction with the field jacket/gortex coat. Hair will not protrude below the front of the cap and ears will be covered. Pilots may wear the cap to and from their aircraft.

■Gortex jacket -- The jacket must be zipped at least three-quarters of the way up when worn. Metal insignia will be used until slide on insignia is available. All clothing should be zipped, snapped and buttoned when worn.

■The government issue bead chain may be visible when wearing dog tags or medical warning tags with open collar uniform combinations. All others should not be visible

■Back packs -- are to be carried in either hand or shoulder unless on crutches or riding a two-wheel vehicle and cannot interfere with giving a proper salute.

■Tattoos -- excessive tattoos will not be

exposed or visible while in uniform. Excessive is defined as any tattoo that exceeds one-quarter of the exposed body part and those above the collarbone and readily visible when wearing an open collar shirt. They are deemed inappropriate due to military image.

■Hands in pockets -- to present the proper military image, while in uniform members should not stand fast or walk with hands in the pocket except to retrieve a personal item.

Bitburg runners top personal records again

By Geary Schwartz
Bitburg High School

The Bitburg High School Cross Country team participated in its largest meet of the season Saturday at Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe in Belgium.

In all, 89 girls and 135 boys from 14 schools competed on the 5K course. Of the eight Bitburg runners, five set personal records, improving records set the previous week.

All eight runners had major time improvements from the opening weekend race, also held at SHAPE. As a team, the Bitburg boys placed 12th and the girls were incomplete.

Girls

The last remaining course record, established by Bitburg's all-time leading female cross country runner, Shannon Baird in 1994, fell by the wayside as two runners broke her mark of 19:57.

Elizabeth Hassing of American School of Cobham lowered

the course record to 19:34, while Michelle Thorne of Heidelberg, placing second, also bettered the old mark, finishing in 19:48.

Bitburg's Ramie Gibson solidified her position as the Barons' number one runner, placing 17th in a personal best time of 22:04, a 32-second improvement from the previous week. Kirstin Pope, hampered with a cold all week, managed a 36th-placing in 23:21 and is looking for revenge once she feels better. Pope still improved by more than 1 minute from her time one month earlier. Madeline Munitz recorded the largest time differential for the girls, placing 67th in 25:29, a new personal record by 1:35.

Boys

Steve Gutschow fell four seconds shy of his personal best established the previous week, finishing in 19:56, placing him 50th overall.

Jacob McMahan (80th, 20:58) and Ray Lichtenberger (82nd, 21:09) were locked in a team duel and spurred each

other on to new personal record times.

McMahan, who was forced to drop out of last week's race, pulled away in the final 300 meters to outdistance his team-mate.

Lichtenberger had the larger time drop of the two athletes, improving by 1:20 to McMahan's 32 seconds. The day's best improvement belonged to Chris Lyng, who placed 119th. Lyng's record time of 23:00 was a 2:29 improvement of the personal best he established the previous week. Lyng has dropped his time five minutes over the last three races.

Joel Parker placed 116th in 22:50 to complete the Baron scoring.

This week Bitburg travels to Mannheim for the final regular season race of the 2002 season. Then, Oct. 19, Bitburg travels to Patch High School for the Division II Championships.

Ramstein High School will host the European Championship races Oct. 26.

Sports Shorts

Eifel Falcons improve to 3-1

By Capt. William Rogers
Falcons coach

Bouncing back from last week's heart-breaking 4-point loss to the Vilseck Buccaneers, the Eifel Falcons rolled to a convincing 46-14 victory over the Rhein Main Dolphins.

In their first home game of the season, the Falcons put together their most complete game with a devastatingly balanced passing and rushing attack. Jaques Abram and Anthony Nurse each rushed for touchdowns, while Josh Collett added two touchdowns, amassing more than 100-yards rushing.

Will Rogers, on 9 for 12 passing, threw touchdown strikes of 32 yards to John Harrell and 34 Yards to Scott McQuiston, hurled extra points to Harrell and McQuiston, and added a rushing conversion on an Indy Car-wreck flip into the end zone.

Abram and Collett each added rushing conversions. With the victory, the Falcons improve to 3-1 and face the Baumholder Warriors today at 7 p.m. at Baumholder.

Swim team

Training for Spangdahlem Air Base's competitive swimming team, the Eifel Sharks, has begun. The team trains four days weekly at Cascade Pool in Bitburg to prepare for competitions throughout Europe. Team members

improved their swim times in the first meet of the season on Sept. 28.

The Minnows swim team is an option for new swimmers who would like to swim competitively someday. The only requirement to join the Minnows is to be able to swim one full pool length unassisted. Youth interested in joining the Sharks or the Minnows, or coaching, can call Laura Darden at 06561-604768 or Olga Andren at 06562-966812.

Powerlifting meet

The Eifel Open Powerlifting meet takes place Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Call the base fitness center at 452-6496 for more information.

Track team

People interested in joining Spangdahlem Air Base's new track and field team should call Master Sgt. Bryon Grays at 452-6866 or 452-6020. The team competes in indoor and outdoor competitions.

Bowling

Eifel Lanes Bowling Center is located in Spangdahlem Air Base building 300. Winter hours are Monday-Thursday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday-Saturday from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Sunday, holidays and family days from noon to 9 p.m. Call 452-6217 for more information.

■Color pin bowling, each Friday at 6 p.m. Participants win prizes when they bowl a strike including a colored head pin.

■Glo-bowling, each Saturday at 6 p.m. The center features new lanes and lights.

■Family day, each Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. Event features discount games and free shoe rentals.

■Deployed spouses family day, each Monday from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Families of deployed military members can bowl for \$1 per game. Call for details.

■League bowlers can practice for only \$1 per game Monday-Friday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Bowlers must present a current league card at checkout. Call for details.

Volksmarch

The Eifel Wanderers volksmarching club visits Frankenstein's Castle Oct. 26. Cost is \$37. Call Theresa Stevens at 06569-963184 to register or for details.

Fitness center news

The following activities take place at the Spangdahlem Air Base fitness center. Call 452-6496 or 452-6634 for details or to register.

■Spinning classes take place each Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 6 a.m., noon and 5 p.m.; and Tuesday and Thursday at 11:30 a.m.

■The center offers beginner racquetball lessons by appointment.

■Microfit fitness analyses are available each Tuesday by appointment.

■Intro to weight training takes place the second Thursday of the month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

■Selectorising training takes place the fourth Thursday of the month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Recreational trips

Outdoor recreation sponsors the following trips in October. The minimum age for trips is 12, unless listed otherwise.

Call 452-7176 or visit the shop in Spangdahlem Air Base building 146, near the Mosel Hall dining facility for more information.

■Baltic Sea cod fishing trip, Oct. 19. Cost is \$85 with gear rental, \$75 with own gear.

■Warner Bros. Park Halloween Horror Festival, Oct. 26. Cost is \$25.

■Luxembourg cave rappel, Oct. 27. Cost is \$30.

■Advanced cave rappelling, Nov. 2. Cost is \$45.

■Baltic Sea Cod fishing trip, Nov. 9. Cost is \$85 with gear rental, \$75 with own gear.

■Underground mountain biking and rappelling, Nov. 10. Cost is \$45.

Out and About

(Note: Events are subject to change at short notice. To double-check on an event prior to attending, call the telephone information office at 11833 and ask for a number to the tourist office in the town the event takes place. Tourist office agents, who usually speak English, can say whether an event was canceled.)

■A German wine harvesting festival takes place now through Monday on Neustadt an der Weinstrasse.

■Biturg sponsors a sales market today at the Beda Platz.

■Bitburg sponsors a farmer's market Sunday. Stores will be open between 1 and 3 p.m. that Sunday.

■The popular Mayen Lucas market takes place Tuesday and Wednesday.

■See digital photos by Irmingard Bauschke now through Sunday at the Bitburg Beda Haus cultural center. The exhibition takes place today and Saturday, from 3 to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 2 to 6 p.m.

■A classical concert, featuring compositions by Mozart, takes place Sunday at 6 p.m. in the Pruem Basilika church.

■Visit a flea market Sunday at the Daun Café Classico; at the Daun-Puetzborn borderland market; at the Hermeskeil

Kirmes festival grounds; along the Kinheim Mosel shore; at the Piesport Moseltal hall and in the Trier Messe parking lot.

■Bruce Springsteen performs Oct. 20 at the Berlin Velodron. This is his only concert in Germany.

■See Barclay James Harvest in concert Oct. 18 at the Losheim am See Eisenbahn hall.

■The Munich Kirchweihdult festival and market takes place Oct. 19-27 in Munich. The event features various forms of entertainment.

■Trier's annual Allerheilen Messe fair features rides and entertainment Oct. 25 through Nov. 3.

■Plan a shopping trip to Trier on Oct. 27. Stores open 1-6 p.m. that day. Entertainment is also scheduled.

■A Halloween Party and Fun Day takes place Oct. 26-31 at the Gondorf Eifel Park. Events start at 5 p.m. and run late into the night. Cost is 7.50 euros when in advance or 9 euros at the door.

For more information about the event or Gondorf Eifel Park, call 06565-956633 or visit www.eifelpark.de.

Information, Tickets and Tours offers the following tours in October. People should register for trips at least three days in

advance. Call the Spangdahlem Air Base Community Activity Center at 452-6567 or the Bitburg Annex ITT office at 06561-945937 for details.

■Heidelberg Bazaar, Saturday. Cost is \$20 for children, \$25 for adults.

■Medieval Dinner at Cochem Castle, Saturday. Cost is \$65.

■Berlin, Saturday and Sunday. Cost is \$134 for ages 3-12, \$159 for adults.

■Poland shopping express, Oct. 18-19. Cost is \$80 for single seat, \$110 for double seat.

■Paris delight, Oct. 19-20. Cost is \$134 for ages 3-12 and \$189 for adults.

■Frankenstein's Castle and Halloween party, Oct. 26. Cost is \$39.

■Halloween at Disneyland, Oct. 26. Cost is \$69 for ages 3-11 and \$79 for adults.

■Halloween at Six Flags, Belgium, Oct. 26. Cost is \$49 for ages 3-9 and \$54 for adults.

■Frankenstein's Castle Family Day, Oct. 27. Cost is \$25 for ages 3-10, \$35 for adults.